

Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 DLOS-03 COA-01 COME-00 EB-07 L-02

NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 DOTE-00

EUR-12 OES-03 /061 W

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R 280416Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6362

INFO HARRY RIETZE REGIONAL DIRECTOR NATIONAL MARINE

FISHERIES SERVICE JUNEAU ALASKA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 15554

FOR MAW FROM CLINGEN

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, PLOS, XP, JA

SUBJ: US-JAPAN BILATERAL FISHERIES TALKS: JAPAN AGREES TO
INCREASED PROTECTION FOR HALIBUT

1. BILATERAL FISHERIES DISCUSSIONS COMMENCED NOVEMBER 25 BUT
RECESSED FOR TWO DAYS TO RESOLVE EASTERN BERING SEA HALIBUT
CONSERVATION ISSUE. REPRESENTATIVES OF US, JAPANESE AND CANADIAN
GOVERNMENTS MET NOVEMBER 26-27 TO DISCUSS PROBLEM AND JAPAN
AGREED TO INCREASE BY TIME AND SPACE, AREA CLOSED TO JAPANESE
TRAWLING IN EASTERN BERING SEA IN ORDER TO REDUCE INCIDENTAL
CATCH OF HALIBUT. IN SUBSTANCE, JAPAN AGREED TO EXTEND PERIOD OF
CLOSURE BY 45 DAYS AND TO EXPAND CLOSED AREA BY ADDITIONAL 30
MINUTES LATITUDE EAST OF 166 WEST LONGITUDE.

2. PERIOD CLOSED TO JAPANESE TRAWLING UNDER THIS AGREEMENT
EXTENDS FROM DECEMBER 1, 1974 TO MAY 15, 1975. FORMER CLOSED
PERIOD WAS DECEMBER 1, 1974 TO MARCH 31, 1975.

3. AREA CLOSED TO JAPANESE TRAWLING NOW INCLUDES THE
FOLLOWING INTERNATIONAL NORTH PACIFIC FISHERIES COMMISSION
AREAS:

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A. AREA B

B. AREA A, SOUTH OF 5530 N

C. AREA E, SOUTH OF 5600N

D. AREA E, BETWEEN 5600 N AND 5630 N, EAST OF 16600 W.

4. IN ADDITION, JAPAN AGREED TO EXTEND PERIOD OF CLOSURE OF AREA FISHED BY NORTH AMERICAN HALIBUT FISHERMEN KNOWN AS MISTY MOON GROUNDS, LOCATED NORTHWEST OF PRIBILOF ISLANDS. REMOVAL OF THIS RESTRICTION IS INCONSEQUENTIAL, ACCORDING TO DELEGATION ADVISORS.

5. IN EFFECT, EXTENSION OF CLOSED PERIOD DESCRIBED IN PARA 2 DOUBLES PROTECTION PROVIDED TO HALIBUT AND ALSO PROVIDES MAJOR PROTECTION TO OPERATIONS OF US CRAB FISHERMEN. AT SAME TIME, IT GREATLY REDUCES INCIDENTAL CAPTURE OF CRABS BY JAPANESE TRAWLERS.

6. BILATERAL FISHERIES DISCUSSIONS WILL RESUME NOVEMBER 28.
HODGSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HALIBUT, FISHERIES MEETINGS, FISHING AGREEMENTS, FISHING LIMITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TOKYO15554
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740346-0209
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974115/aaaaadns.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 JUL 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <17 MAR 2003 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-JAPAN BILATERAL FISHERIES TALKS: JAPAN AGREES TO INCREASED PROTECTION FOR HALIBUT
TAGS: EFIS, PLOS, XP, JA, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005